

17. (Amended) A thermoplastic article consisting essentially of from about 1 to about 99% by weight of an unmodified polyvinyl alcohol and from about 99 to about 1% by weight of a thermoplastic elastomer, wherein the thermoplastic article has less than about 2.0 percent by weight of water.

30. (Amended) A substantially water-free blend composition consisting essentially of from about 1 to about 99% by weight of an unmodified polyvinyl alcohol and from about 99 to about 1% by weight of a thermoplastic elastomer.